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Title: USING CONSTRAINT-BASED HEURISTICS TO SATISFICE STATIC SOFTWARE PARTITIONING AND ALLOCATION OF

HETEROGENEOUS DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on <u>January 31, 2006</u>, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9 and 13-15 have been amended, no claims are canceled or added; as a result, claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 remain pending in this application. Applicant notes that in addition to the amendments discussed below, Applicant has amended the claims as recommended in the Office Action in Paragraph 9.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as lacking adequate description or enablement. In particular, the Office Action stated that the recitation of "prepartitioning the set of couplings to produce data and control partitions" and "interleaving the preallocated data and control partitions" in lines 8 and 11 of the claim respectively, did not appear to have support in the original disclosure. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 to replace "control partitions" with "code partitions" as stated in the specification on page 30, lines 10-11. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 9 as amended are fully supported by the specification.

Further, the Office Action stated with respect to claims 1 and 9 that the recitation of "preallocating each coupling in the set of couplings to one of the plurality of computing resources" did not appear to have support in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees. FIG. 1 and the accompanying text describing FIG. 1 illustrates an example hardware platform described as having computing resources, and the specification, at page 29 describes allocating to platforms. In view of the fact that platforms have computing resources, the recitation is fully supported by the specification.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected to make and/or use the invention. In particular, the Office Action states that "how to determine a

coupling strength is unclear for one skilled in the art based on the disclosure" and referring to Table 6. Applicant has amended Table 6 to correct a typographical error such that the use of the terms "minimum" and "maximum" is now consistent with the usage in the other rows of the table.

The Office Action further states in paragraph 5-2 that claims 1 and 9 recite the limitation "said couplings including couplings selected from the group comprising: control couplings, data couplings and peripheral couplings". The Office Action further states that "it is unclear for one skilled in the art how to "prepartitioning the set of couplings to produce data and control partitions based on the peripheral couplings only." Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 such that at least one coupling of each type is used in the prepartitioning recited in claims 1 and 9.

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for "prepartitioning the set of couplings" after coupling strength has been calculated for every coupling as shown in blocks 210 and 212 of FIG. 2 and described in the specification at pages 26-29, does not reasonably provide enablement for "prepartitioning the set of couplings" by only "determining a coupling strength for a coupling in the set of couplings" as recited in claims 1 and 9. Applicant has amended claim 1 and 9 to recite that a coupling strength is determined for each coupling.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the portions of the figures and specification referred to above, among others, enable a person of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention commensurate with the scope of claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 as amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of each of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office Action stated that the claims were indefinite because claims 1 and 9 were interpreted by the Examiner such that "all the components together only have a data and a code segment" and the dependent claims referred to each component having a code and data segment. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 to clarify that each component has a code and data segment, thereby providing consistent and

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definite usage of the terms. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments overcome the rejection, and requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 3, 10 and 11.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6954 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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Date November 24, 2006 By

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<u>CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:</u> The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this _24th____ day of November 2006.

Rodney L. Lacy

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